Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 COPENH 02345 160637Z

14
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 SAM-01 IO-10 /080 W
---------- 089220
P R 151650Z AUG 75
FM AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1368
INFO AMEMBASSY LISBON PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
AMEMBASSY DUBLIN
AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE
AMEMBASSY HELSINKI
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG
AMEMBASSY OSLO
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK
AMEMBASSY ROME
AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
AMEMBASSY VIENNA
USMISSION EC BRUSSELS
USMISSION NATO

C O N F I D E N T I A L COPENHAGEN 2345

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR PINT PO DA
SUBJ: COMMENTS ON DANISH PRIME MINISTERS VISIT
TO PORTUGAL

REF: COPENHAGEN 2323 AND PREVIOUS

SUMMARY: POUL NIELSON, WHO ACCOMPANIED PRIME MINISTER
JORGENSEN TO PORTUGAL, TOLD US THE DANES WERE VERY DEPRESSED
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 COPENH 02345 160637Z

BY WHAT THEY FOUND THERE. NIELSON'S ANALYSIS OF THE

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006

SITUATION WAS LAREGLY BASED ON CONVERSATIONS WITH SOARES.
THE GENESIS OF JORGENSEN'S TRIP AND SAID THAT HE (NIELSON)
WOULD BE DRAFTING A REPORT TO PALME AS CHAIRMAN OF THE
STOCKHOLM CONFERENCE. END SUMMARY.

1) POUL NIELSON, THE CHAIRMAN OF THE SOCIAL DEMOCRATIC
PARTY'S FOREIGN RELATIONS COMMITTEE, ACCOMPANIED PRIME
MINISTER ANKER JORGENSEN TO PORTUGAL AND
PARTICIPATED IN ALL THE LATTER'S CONVERSATIONS WITH
PORTUGUESE PERSONALITIES. ON AUGUST 14, NIELSON PROVIDED US
WITH A READ OUT OF THE TRIP AND NOTED THAT HIS
ANALYSIS OF THE POLITICAL SITUATION WAS BASED LARGELY ON
CONVERSATIONS THE DANES HAD HAD WITH SOARES.

2) NIELSON SAID JORGENSEN WAS VERY DEPRESSED BY THE
SITUATION HE FOUND IN PORTUGAL.
ALLIANCES AMONG THE VARIOUS
PORTUGUESE POWER GROUPS WERE MERCURIAL AND SHIFTING
ALMOST DAILY. AT THE MOMENT IT SEEMS AS IF GONCALVES
AND THE COMMUNISTS WERE STANDING ALONE AGAINST THE OTHER
DISPARATE ELEMENTS WHICH ARE FIGHTING FOR CONTROL:
CARVALHO, THE NON-COMMUNIST POLITCAL GROUPS, MOST OF THE
ARMED FORCES, THE CHURCH, AND THE MASSES OF THE POEPLE.

3) WHEN ASKED HOW THE REALTIVELY SMALL AND INCREASINGLY
ISOLATED POWER STRUCTURE REPRESENTED BY GONCALVES COULD
WITHSTAND A CONCERTED ATTEMPT BY OPPONENTS TO PUSH IT ASIDE,
NIELSON REPLIED WITH TWO OBSERVATIONS. FIRST, THE OPPOSI-
TION TO GONCALVES AND HIS ALLIES WAS BY NO MEANS A
CONCERTED ONE. SECOND, THE MILITARY WHO OPPOSE MOVEMENT
TOWARD A COMMUNIST CONTROLLED STATE WERE RELUCTANT TO
DEPOSE GONCALVES.

4) POLCOUNS ASKED WHETHER NIELSON THOUGHT THAT FOREIGN
ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE TO PORTUGAL WOULD HELP DEMOCRATIC
FORCES IN A MEANINGFUL AND TIMELY WAY SO AS TO EXERT AN
INFLUENCE ON THE INTERNAL STRUGGLE IN PORTUGAL. NIELSON
REPLIED THAT IT WAS DIFFICULT TO TRACE STIMULUS AND EFFECT
IN SUCH A SITUATION BUT THAT THE ECONOMIC PRESSURES BEING
BROUGHT TO BEAR ON THE PORTUGUESE GOVERNMENT WOULD REACH "STUNNING
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 COPENH 02345 160637Z

PROPORTIONS" VERY SHORTLY AND CITED THE RETURN TO THE METRO-
POLE OF THE REFUGEES FROM ANGOLA AS ONE EXAMPLE. THE DILEMMA,
HE ACKNOWLEDGED, WAS THAT HELPING THE GONCALVES GOVERNMENT
NOW MIGHT STRENGTHEN IT. SOME SORT OF CONDITIONS SHOULD BE
ATTACHED TO OFFERS OF AID BY WESTERN GOVERNMENTS TO PORTUGAL.
SOARES HIMSELF INTENDS TO "PULL ALL THE STOPS" TO GET
GONCALVES TO RESIGN.

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006

6) NIELSON BELIEVEDTHAT THE JORGENSEN TRIP ACCOMPLISHED PRETTY MUCH WHAT IT SET OUT TO DO: TO DEMONSTRATE TO THE PORTUGUESE PEOPLE THAT SOARES AND HIS PARTY WERE (1) THE ONLY VIABLE ALTERNATIVE TO THE THREAT OF A COMMUNIST TAKEOVER IN PORTUGAL AND (2) THE PRESENT MEANS OF ACHIEVING ACCEPTABILITY AND AID FROM THE WESTERN EUROPEAN DEMOCRACIES.

7) NIELSON OBSERVED THAT IT WAS "UNUSUAL" FOR A PRIME MINISTER TO UNDERTAKE SUCH A TRIP AS A "PARTY LEADER" BUT THAT THE PERILOUS SITUATION INPORTUGAL DEMANDED UNTRADITIONAL RESPONSES. NIELSON RECALLED THAT THE GENESIS OF JORGENSEN'S TRIP WAS HIS DECISION A NUMBER OF MONTHS AGO TO GO WITH HIS WIFE ON SUMMER HOLIDAY IN PORTUGAL. HE HAD HOPED TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THIS HOLIDAY TO HAVE CONVERSATIONS WITH SOARES AND OTHER NON-COMMUNIST PORTUGUESE LEADERS. THE EVENTS OF THE LAST FEW WEEKS, CULMINATING IN THE STOCKHOLM CONFERENCE, LED HIM TO REVISE HIS PLANS AND TO UNDERTAKE THE TRIP HE HAD JUST MADE INSTEAD. ALTHOUGH HE WAS NOT"EXPRESSLY COMMISSIONED" BY THE STOCKHOLM CONFERENCE TO ACT IN ITS BEHHALF, HIS INTENDED TRIP WAS DISCUSSED AT THE CONFERENCE AND THE OTHER SOCIAL DEOMCRATIC LEADERS CONCURRED IN THE LINE HE WOULD TAKE WHILE IN PORTUGAL.

8) AT THE HELSINKI CONFERENCE HE WILL GIVE AN ORAL ACCOUNT OF HIS IMPRESSIONS AND CONCLUSIONS TO HIS SOCIAL DEMOCRATIC COLLEAGUES. NIELSON, HIMSELF, WILL DRAFT A FULL WRITTEN REPORT WHICH WILL BE SENT OVER JORGENSEN'S SIGNATURE TO SWEDISH PRIME MINISTER FALME IN HIS CAPACITY AS CHAIRMAN OF THE PORTUGAL COMMITTEE ON THE STOCKHOLM CONFERENCE. LUKENS

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: REPORTS, HEAD OF GOVERNMENT VISITS, POLITICAL SITUATION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 15 AUG 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: buchantr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975COPENH02345
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750284-0068
From: COPENHAGEN
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750846/aaaabnvz.tel
Line Count: 146
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 COPENHAGEN 2323
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: buchantr
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 08 APR 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <08 APR 2003 by IzenbeI0>; APPROVED <30 SEP 2003 by buchantr>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: COMMENTS ON DANISH PRIME MINISTERS VISIT TO PORTUGAL
TAGS: PFOR, PINT, PO, DA, (JORGENSEN, ANKER), (NIELSON, POUL)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006